NOTICES OF RECENT DISCOVERIES OF COINS. BY GEORGE SIM, Esq.,
F.S.A. SCOT., AND CURATOR OF COINS.

1. NOTICE OF COINS FOUND AT ABERNETHY.

In the month of November last, William Garrick, wright at Abernethy, in Perthshire, while engaged in lowering the clay floor of one of the rooms of his house, came upon an earthenware vessel filled with coins. The vessel was broken to fragments by the spade or other implement used in digging. The coins were immediately secured by Garrick and his assistant, James Honeyman. The news of the discovery having spread abroad, one or two gentlemen from Newburgh hastened to Abernethy, and secured specimens of most of the coins found. A notice of the discovery having afterwards appeared in the local newspapers, it thus came to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Remembrancer, who immediately instructed Mr M'Lean, the procurator-fiscal at Perth (since deceased), to recover and transmit the treasure-trove to Exchequer.

Mr M'Lean at once went to Abernethy, and recovered from Garrick 396, and from Honeyman 36 of the coins. These he sent to Exchequer on 27th November, stating that he had learned from Garrick that two gentlemen from Newburgh had previously got away some of the coins. These the Procurator-Fiscal took no steps to recover until he should again hear from the Remembrancer. On 28th, the Remembrancer
replied that it would be necessary to recover these other coins, and which the Procurator-Fiscal immediately set about. He was successful in recovering 40 from one gentleman, and 45 from another, which he sent to Exchequer, expressing doubt whether one of the gentlemen had not retained a number of the coins.

I have carefully examined the coins which have reached Exchequer, and found them to consist of—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coin Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Henry VIII. side-faced groat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James III. half-plack</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James III. and IV. placks</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James V. placks</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>half-placks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>third of a groat</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary, testoons, 1558, “In virtute,” &amp;c.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>testoon, 1558, of Francis (as Dauphin) and Mary, reverse, “Fecit utraque unum,”</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>testoons, 1560, of Francis and Mary as King and Queen of France, &amp;c., “Vicit Leo,” &amp;c.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis and Mary, “Jam non sunt,”</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary, Edinburgh placks,</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>half-placks</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stirling placks</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>placks, reverse, “Servio et usu teror,”</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>penny, with queen’s bust crowned</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sent to Exchequer in all, 518

From these I have selected and solicited 42 coins for our Museum, and have no doubt that in due time we shall receive them.

It may be remarked, that the latest coin now discovered is dated 1560, being the testoon struck during the short time Mary was Queen of France. There being no French coins of Francis II., these coins are eagerly sought after by the French collectors, to fill up the blank in their own coinage.

It is reported in the country that there were also several of the testoons of Mary, with bust. These are dated 1561 and 1562 (supposing
NOTICE OF A RECENT DISCOVERY OF COINS.

Of these 518 coins, only 17 are of silver, the others being of billon, or of copper washed with silver. There is only one English coin in the number, being the groat of Henry VIII. Most of the coins are in a good state of preservation.

2. NOTICE OF A GOLD COIN OF NERO, FOUND IN THE PARISH OF ECCLES.

Last month a gold coin of Nero, reverse "Salus," was found in the parish of Eccles, and came into the possession of a gentleman in Coldstream, from whom it was recovered by the Remembrancer. This coin is very well preserved, and will ere long, it is hoped, form part of our collection.

3. NOTE ON COINS FOUND AT KIRKMICHAEL, IN PERTHSHIRE.

I last week examined at Exchequer five silver coins, transmitted by Mr Jamieson, the Procurator-Fiscal at Perth, said to have been found in a birch wood near Kirkmichael, in the course of some draining operations. The coins were recovered from the contractors for the draining, and after examination, have been again returned to them.

The coins are—

Penny of Edward I., of Canterbury Mint.
Do., Bury St Edmunds.
Penny of Edward II., of Canterbury.
Do., London.
Sterling of Gauicher II. de Châtillon, Count of Neufchatel, struck at Iwe, who died in 1329.

This Gauicher was Constable of France, and had the château of Porcien, on the river Aisne, near the town of Rethel, given him by Philip, King of France, in 1308. By his marriage in 1314, with Isabella, widow of Thiebaut, Duke of Lorrain, he obtained the town of Neufchatel, in Lorrain, and coined money there, and at Iwe, supposed to be the place of that name on the Moselle, near Nancy.
These sterlings, being exactly like the English coinage of the period, were brought to England in large quantities, and got mixed up with the current money, to the great annoyance of traders; and are often found so mixed, in Scotland.

Monday, 8th April, 1867.

DAVID LAING, ESQ., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for, and elected Fellows of the Society:—

JOHN MURRIE, Esq., Provost of Stirling.
ALEXANDER CURLE, of East Morriston, Esq., Melrose.
REV. WILLIAM ROSS, Inspector of F. C. Gaelic Schools.
WILLIAM HUNTER, Esq., Portobello.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks were voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By Messrs T. and F. STEWART, Humbie Mills.

A bowl-shaped Sepulchral Urn of yellowish clay, with black fracture. It is covered with ornamental bands of alternate parallel and zigzag lines, and measures 6 inches in height by 7 inches across the mouth, and 3½ across the base.

The Messrs Stewart state that in the course of draining a field on the farm of Humbie Mill, in the parish of Humbie, one of the drainers came upon four large stones placed so as to form a square chamber (probably a short stone cist), and in clearing away the soil he found this urn filled with earth, which he did not notice to be different from the rest of the soil.

(2.) By Mr JOHN KEITH, Farmer, Auchranie.

Large Unornamented Cinerary Urn in fragments, found inverted, and covering, apparently, a quantity of burnt bones, at Auchranie, Strichen, Aberdeenshire.
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM.

(3.) By Rev. J. O. Haldane, Minister of the Parish of Kingoldrum.

Bronze Chain and Cross, found in a Stone Cist in the vicinity of the ancient Church of Kingoldrum, Forfarshire. The cross and chain were exhibited at a meeting of the Society in June 1853, and are described (with the accompanying figure), at page 191, Vol. I. of the "Proceedings."

Bronze Cross and Chain, found in a stone cist or coffin at Kingoldrum. (Full size.)

(4.) By J. B. Greenshields, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Cast of the top of a Sculptured Round-headed Cross with central boss, and four circular perforations, cut one on each side of the limbs of the cross. It measures about 17 inches in diameter across the transverse limbs, and was found at Lesmahagow. (See subsequent communication.

Small Iron Quoit, or Pitching Iron, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, found at Craignethan in the parish of Lesmahagow.

Mason's Iron Trowel, found in taking down the wall of a house at Lesmahagow, which was built about the year 1650.

Flat Powder Flask of Horn, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, covered with punctured zigzag patterns.

(5.) By James Drummond, Esq., R.S.A., Curator S.A. Scot.
Church Sand Glass (a double bottle in wooden frame), 6 inches high.

(6.) By D. H. Robertson, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.
Two Blunderbusses, with Brass Barrels and Flint Locks. The lockplates are engraved BLYTH, the maker's name. They were formerly used on shipboard.

(7.) By Mr William Stewart, through D. D. Black, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.
Silver Two-Penny Piece of Elizabeth; Bodle, and Penny of Charles II.

(8.) By Colonel Cowell, Stepney, London.

(9.) By H. Maclachlan, Esq., F.G.S. (the Author.)

(10.) By the Executors of the late Henry Christy, Esq.

(11.) By the Royal Irish Academy.
Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy. Vol. XXIV. Parts VII.
and VIII. 4to. Dublin, 1867.

There were exhibited—

By Lieut.-Colonel John S. G. Ryley, through T. B. Johnston,
Esq., Treasurer S.A. Scot.
A fine Collection of Water-colour Drawings of the Taj Mehal, and of
the Tombs inside; Akber Shah's Tomb at Secundra; Etimadowlah's Tomb
near Agra; also of a Tomb at Futtehpoor Sikri.

The following Communications were read:—